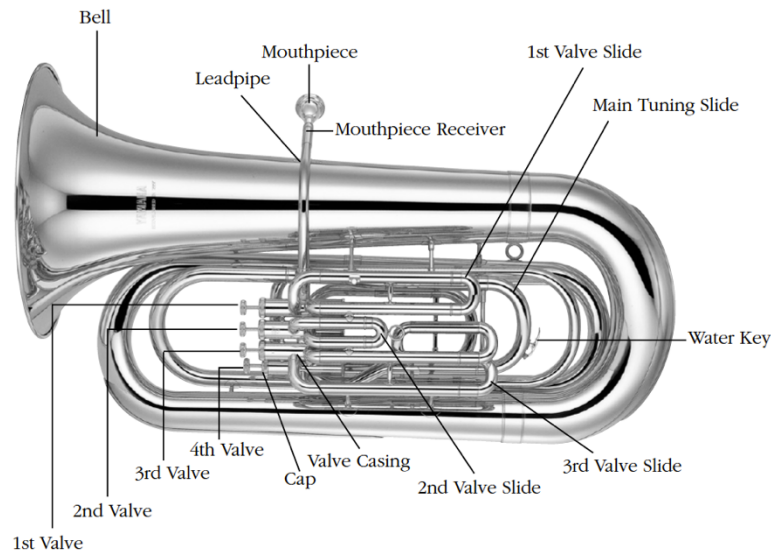


Instrument Care: Tuba

Parts of the Tuba

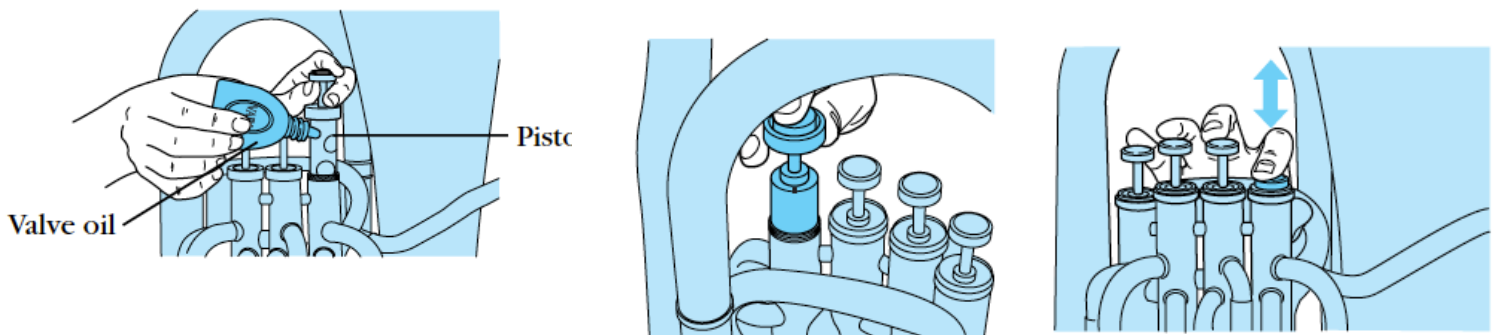


Maintenance Equipment:

Valve oil, soft cloth, mouthpiece brush, slide grease, silver polishing cloth (for silver instruments only), cleaning snake

Oiling Valve:

1. Unscrew the valve cap and pull the piston straight out of the valve casing until about half of the valve piston is exposed.
2. Apply a few drops (5-10) of valve oil on the piston.
3. Slowly, rotate the valve around and up and down a little to spread out the oil. Return the piston into the valve casing, making sure that the valve guide fits into the slot inside the valve casing. After the valve cap is tightened firmly, move the piston up and down a few times.

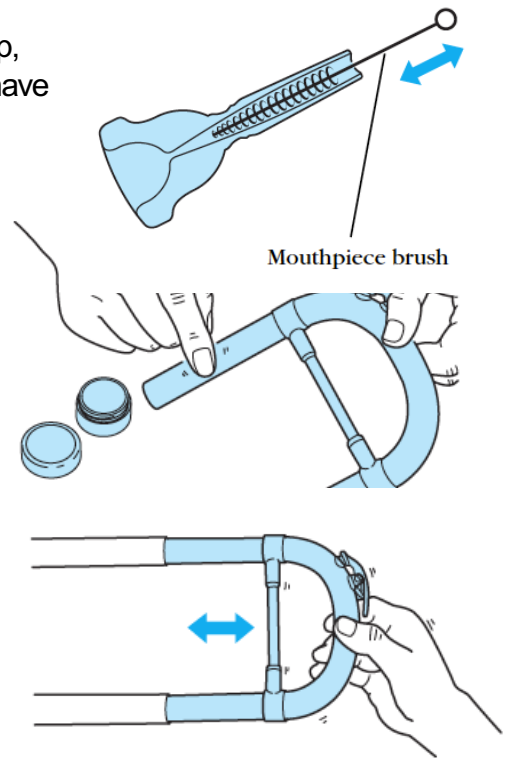


The piston is the most important part of the instrument. Never treat the pistons roughly, drop the piston, or let the piston fall, etc. If the piston becomes damaged or dented, never return it to the valve casing and contact Mr. Petersen as soon as possible

Daily Cleaning: Empty water key before packing up. Wipe outside of horn with a soft cloth to remove finger prints. If you do not do this, your instrument will tarnish and discolor. Oil valves when necessary. Rinse/wash out mouthpiece often, especially if you have been sick.

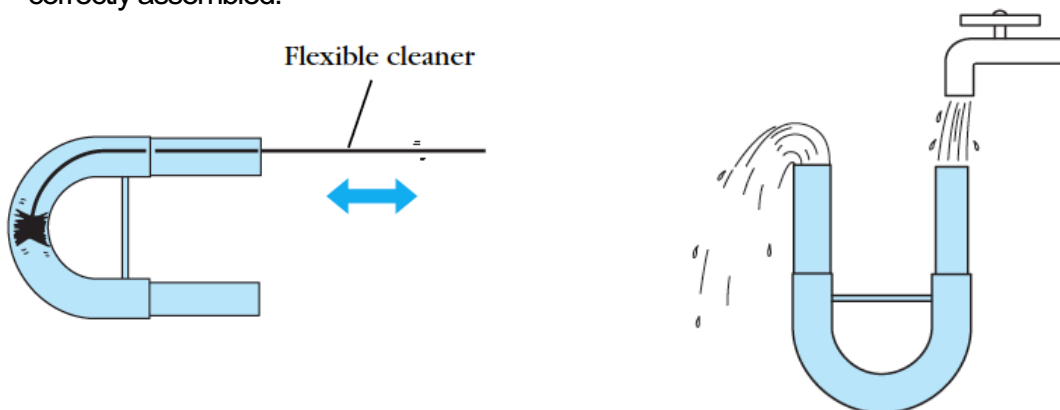
Monthly:

- Mouthpiece: Wash mouthpiece with warm water, mild soap, and brush. Wash your mouthpiece often, especially if you have been sick. Dry and be careful not to drop.
- Tuning Slides: Check your tuning slides to see how easily they move. If they are stiff, apply a little slide grease to the slide. To do this,
 - 1) Depress the piston that corresponds to the slide that you want to apply grease to and then remove the slide.
 - 2) Put a little slide grease on your finger, and then spread it around the inner slide.
 - 3) Hold the piston down and move the slide in and out a few times to spread grease.



Every few months:

Carefully pull out all the valve slides. Rinse out and drain. Take out all valves and set aside in order, do not drop! Every few months: Run warm water through all openings of instrument and valves. Drain well. Wipe outside of instrument with a dry cloth. Let all parts dry overnight. Oil valves, re-grease slides and carefully assemble instrument. Play to make sure it has been correctly assembled.



Every Year:

Have instrument professionally cleaned. A Chem-Flush or a Sonic Bath will remove all germs and calcified deposits. See Mr. Petersen about arranging this at the music store.

School-owned instruments will be professionally cleaned regularly. If your own instrument has not been cleaned in a long time, please take it to a music store for a chem-flush. The above monthly cleaning will only make a very dirty instrument worse!